

## ***County of Los Angeles Strategic Plan***

### **Goal No. 5: CHILDREN AND FAMILIES' WELL-BEING**

Improve the well-being of children and families in Los Angeles County as measured by achievements in the five outcome areas adopted by the Board: good health; safety and survival; economic well-being; social and emotional well-being; and education/ workforce readiness.

A family is defined as a support group of people consisting of children, their caregivers, and other adults, including seniors, who relate to each other and are interdependent for meeting their basic living needs.

#### **Strategy 1: Implement integrated service delivery initiatives to demonstrate substantial progress toward achieving improved outcomes for children and families by July 2005.**

- Objective 1: By June 30, 2003, fully implement the piloting of a Centralized Eligibility List to increase access to the full range of subsidized child care services for income-eligible families.
- Objective 2: By July 31, 2003, initiate an action plan and identify resources to implement health, mental health, and substance abuse screening and assessment for all children entering out-of-home placement for the foster care and juvenile justice systems.
- Objective 3: By July 31, 2003, pilot use of service integration tools designed to improve children and families access to services, including, but not limited, to the Universal Face Sheet (UFS) and the Most Commonly Required Fees and Documents (MCRD).
- Objective 4: By October 31, 2003, complete the design process for an Integrated Family Services System (IFSS) to comprehensively integrate services and improve outcomes for children in out-of-home placement and/or families receiving two or more of the following services: CalWORKs; Child Protective Services; Mental Health; and Juvenile Probation.
- Objective 5: By October 31, 2003, launch an Internet-accessible, self-administered *Los Angeles Services Identification and Referral (LASIR)* software application, usable by County and non-County staff, community-based organization representatives, and the general public for identifying services and programs that might be available to individuals and/or families in need, based on their unique circumstances.
- Objective 6: By December 31, 2003, fully implement the Child Care and Development Project to increase the capacity of child care providers and programs to appropriately serve children with disabilities and other special needs.
- Objective 7: By July 31, 2004, fully implement Customer Service and Satisfaction Standards to ensure families are treated with respect and courtesy whenever they interact with County departments/agencies and their community partners.
- Objective 8: By December 31, 2004, implement Principles for Partnering pilot and evaluate the collective efforts of County Departments and community-based organizations for enhancing families' and communities' capacity to meet their own needs.

Objective 9: By July 31, 2005, implement the Child Abuse Prevention Initiative (CAPI) in partnership with First 5 LA (formerly the Children and Families First Proposition 10 Commission).

**Strategy 2: Establish alignment among stakeholders on health and human service priorities for improving outcomes by July 31, 2003.**

Objective 1: By January 31, 2003, adopt and begin implementation of the Child Care and Development Strategic Plan to improve the capacity, accessibility, and quality of child care and development services for children and families in Los Angeles County.

Objective 2: By February 28, 2003, apprise and seek support of County stakeholders on departmental priorities for improving outcomes for children and families.

Objective 3: By April 30, 2003, initiate action plan for creating a Countywide Long-Term Care System to coordinate and integrate services for improving outcomes for elderly and disabled adults.

Objective 4: By July 31, 2003, establish roles and areas of involvement for key stakeholders in support of departmental priorities.

Objective 5: By July 31, 2003, adopt policy for developing co-located and integrated multi-agency Family Service Centers that provide accessible, community-based health and human services.

Objective 6: By July 31, 2003, confirm the commitment between the County and its health and human services contract partners to implement consistent best practices for achieving a shared vision and goals, customer service and satisfaction standards, and outcomes.

Objective 7: By July 31, 2003, initiate comprehensive action plan to reduce the length of stay for children in out-of-home placement and increase the number of permanent families for children in foster care through reunification, relative caregiver guardianship or adoption.

**Strategy 3: Complete implementation of a system to measure progress towards improving the five outcomes for children and families by April 30, 2006.**

Objective 1: By July 31, 2003, pilot the Outcomes Screening Tool (OST) for ensuring that all health and human services are effectively contributing to the achievement of the five outcomes.

Objective 2: By July 31, 2004, each department shall implement data collection and analytical processes that institutionalize the use of program performance measures for decision-making and strategic planning.

Objective 3: By April 30, 2006, complete implementation of the restructured Children and Families Budget to support program performance and results-based decision-making.